NOMINATION OF EMMETT H. WALKER, JR., TO BE CHIEF, NATIONAL GUARD BUREAU

HEARING

BEFORE THE

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES
UNITED STATES SENATE

NINETY-SEVENTH CONGRESS

SECOND SESSION

ON

NOMINATION OF

EMMETT H. WALKER, JR., ARMY NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES, TO BE CHIEF, NATIONAL GUARD BUREAU

AUGUST 18, 1982

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NOMINATION OF EMMETT H. WALKER, JR., TO BE CHIEF, NATIONAL GUARD BUREAU

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 18, 1982

U.S. SENATE,
COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES,
Washington, D.C.

The committee met in open session pursuant to notice, at 2:30 p.m., in room 212, Russell Senate Office Building, Senator John C. Stennis, presiding.

Members present: Senators Stennis, Warner, and Jepsen.

Also present: Senator Thad Cochran and Representative G. V. (Sonny) Montgomery.

Staff present: Rhett B. Dawson, staff director and chief counsel; Francis J. Sullivan, minority staff director; Paul C. Besozzi, minority counsel; Christine C. Dauth, chief clerk; George K. Johnson, Jr., and José E. Martinez, professional staff members; and Tamara L. Jones, staff assistant.

Also present: Buzz Hefti, assistant to Senator Warner; and Jon Etherton, assistant to Senator Jepsen.

Senator STENNIS. Ladies and gentlemen, our committee will please come to order.

This meeting of the Senate Armed Services Committee was specifically called for the purpose of considering two nominations that we have for two important officers. Each one is in the National Guard Bureau.

One is the nomination of General Walker to be Chief of the National Guard Bureau and the other is Brig. Gen. Herbert R. Temple, Jr., nominated to be major general and successor to General Walker as the Deputy.

We are delighted to have with us Senator Cochran and Congressman Montgomery. Congressman Montgomery is a general in the National Guard.

General Walker, I know you so well that it is hard for me to ask you a few questions. However, I do have a brief statement that I want to insert in the hearing record. I will have some personal remarks to make later.

[Prepared statement of Senator John C. Stennis follows:]

PREPARED STATEMENT OF SENATOR JOHN C. STENNIS

General Walker, a hearty welcome to the Armed Services Committee to a fellow Mississippian. And my warmest congratulations on your nomination to be Chief of the National Guard Bureau. You have made a distinguished contribution to the Army National Guard during over 37 years of commissioned service in the United States Army, culminating most recently with a 4-year tour as Director of the Army National Guard. That institution has benefited greatly from your leadership. Now you will apply those qualities of leadership to all the activities of the National Guard Bureau.

General Walker, I don't need to preach to you about the important and major role that our National Guard forces play in our military force structure. The Army National Guard represents some 46 percent of the total ground combat power of the United States Army, as measured by the number of combat division brigades and battalions. The Air National Guard represents 32 percent of the Air Force tactical airlift forces and 26 percent of tactical fighter forces. We must keep the invaluable talents of these citizen soldiers honed so we can turn to them without hesitancy when we need them.

I know that an important incentive to our Guard forces can be the availability of modern, up-to-date equipment to train with. Nothing stimulates the pride and desire of our Guard forces more than having some equipment with new paint on it. To this end I have been able, with the support of my colleagues in the Congress, the last two years to get some additional funds authorized for our Guard (and Reserve) forces. The Conference Report on the fiscal year 1983 Defense Authorization Bill, which was approved by the Senate yesterday afternoon, includes a special $80 million authorization for equipment for our Guard forces. I will work hard to see that this money is appropriated. Our Guard forces can certainly use these extra funds.

General Walker, you have my best wishes and strong support in your new job. I know you will provide guidance and direction that will only serve to enhance the quality and preparedness of our Guard forces.

Senator STENNIS. I yield to Senator Cochran and Congressman Montgomery. I will let you present this nominee, General Walker, to the committee and vouch for him as much as you wish.

STATEMENT OF HON. THAD COCHRAN, A U.S. SENATOR FROM THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

Senator COCHRAN. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. It is a pleasure for me to be here with you and my friend "Sonny" to testify before your committee today. I am very proud of "Mickey" Walker, especially since he has been selected as the new Chief of the National Guard Bureau.

I understand that the committee has a copy of his biography and a résumé of his career in the service. He has truly been an outstanding leader and fine soldier as his record indicates. I do not think the President could have chosen a finer man for this position.

As we all know "Mickey" Walker is a native of Mississippi. I have a statement here that outlines some of the highlights of his career that I hope may be inserted in the record. He has been an outstanding citizen of our State, Mr. Chairman, and he has had a distinguished record with the National Guard in Mississippi. He has served in many positions of leadership and has always done so with dignity. This has reflected a great deal of credit on the armed services and our State.

I think he is well-prepared because of his training and experience to serve in this very important position. As you are well aware, the National Guard today is very important to our Nation's defense.

According to testimony provided to the Subcommittee on Preparedness in December of last year and in January of this year, the Army National Guard represents 33 percent of the Army's combat divisions, 46 percent of the combat brigades and 57 percent of the armored cavalry regiments.

Units of the Air National Guard provide a sizable portion of the strategic and tactical airlift capability and man one-half of the air defense interceptor alert sites in the United States. So it is quite a job.

I think Mickey Walker is well-qualified to handle this job. He will make the President proud that he has selected him and the Senate proud that they consider his nomination favorably.

Thank you very much for permitting me to be here and to present the nominee formally to the committee.

[The prepared statement of Senator Thad Cochran follows:]

PREPARED STATEMENT OF SENATOR THAD COCHRAN

Mr. Chairman, I am pleased to have this opportunity to express to the committee my strong support for confirmation of Maj. Gen. Emmett H. "Mickey" Walker, Jr. to be Chief of the National Guard Bureau.

General Walker, I am pleased to say, is a very distinguished Mississippian who has served in the United States Army and National Guard for over thirty years. During this service, Mickey Walker has proven himself to be a leader and a fine soldier. As a platoon leader in the 378th Infantry in the Rhineland Campaign in December 1944, General Walker earned the Silver Star for gallantry beyond the call of duty at Ensdorf, Germany. In April, 1945, he earned the Bronze Star at Pommersches, Germany.

After the War, General Walker completed his interrupted college education at Mississippi State University and returned to military service in 1949 as a member of the Mississippi Army National Guard. In 1951, then Captain Walker, was mobilized with the 31st Division during the Korean conflict and served as a Military Intelligence Officer. After the Korean conflict, General Walker returned to the Mississippi Army National Guard and served in a variety of assignments.

Mickey Walker's leadership qualities and contribution to the Mississippi Army National Guard led in 1972 to his appointment as Assistant Adjutant General for the Army, for the State of Mississippi, and he was federally recognized as brigadier general, Adjutant General Corps. He was subsequently ordered to active duty in October 1976 as Special Assistant to the Director of the Army National Guard, National Guard Bureau. He was then reassigned as Deputy Director, Army National Guard and federally recognized as brigadier general of the line effective November 17, 1976. In August 1978, General Walker received his current assignment as Director of the Army National Guard and promoted to Major General.

As Chief of the National Guard Bureau, General Walker, is imminently qualified. His record in combat and his exemplary service and dedication to the National Guard during the past thirty years, both as an officer and administrator, are proof. In this new assignment, he will have the opportunity to serve as the channel of communications between the Army and Air Force and the States on matters affecting the National Guard.

I believe we all recognize the importance of our National Guard to this Nation's defense. According to testimony provided to the committee's Subcommittee on Preparedness in December of last year and in January of this year, the Army National Guard represents 33 percent of the Army's combat divisions, 46 percent of the combat brigades, and 57 percent of the armored cavalry regiments. Units of the Air National Guard provide a sizable portion of the strategic and tactical airlift capability and man one half of the Air Defense Interceptor Alert sites in the United States.

General Walker is well prepared to provide the leadership to help insure that the National Guard component of our National Defense Forces are properly trained and ready to serve.

Mr. Chairman, I urge the Committee favorably report the nomination of General Walker. This distinguished Mississippian and soldier will continue to serve his country well as Chief of the National Guard Bureau.

Senator STENNIS. Thank you very much, Senator.

Congressman Montgomery, you have had a distinguished career in the National Guard and a vast interest in the Reserves. Also you have been a Member of Congress for many years. We are glad to have you here.

If there is anything you wish to say, we will be glad to hear from you now.

STATEMENT OF HON. G. V. (SONNY) MONTGOMERY, A U.S. REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

Mr. MONTGOMERY. I want to thank you, Senator Stennis, for giving me the opportunity to go on record in behalf of the nomination of Major General Walker to be Chief of the National Guard Bureau.

It is a pleasure to appear with Senator Cochran before your committee to testify in behalf of our close friend, Mickey Walker.

General Conoway, who is head of the Air Guard, is present today. You will also nominate, as I understand it, General Temple to take General Walker's place as director of the Army National Guard.

I cannot emphasize enough how important the National Guard is to the defense of this country. Senator Cochran gave some statistics showing that we have more infantry battalions in the Army National Guard and that some of the flying records of the Air Guard are better than the regulars. We are extremely proud of the way the Guard has performed its role in the last few years.

I will close by saying that I have known General Walker for a number of years. I would like to submit my prepared statement and say there could not have been a better choice by the President than Mickey Walker.

I had the privilege of going to that great university that you and General Walker attended. I was there at the same time as Mickey Walker and we were in the ROTC together.

Senator WARNER. Will you clarify that? Senator Stennis and I went to the University of Virginia? We weren't classmates? [Laughter.]

Mr. MONTGOMERY. I am referring to Mississippi State and ROTC together.

We both went to Fort Benning and to Fort Knox where we received our commissions. He has a distinguished war record including the Silver Star, one of our highest decorations.

When he came back to private business in Mississippi he entered the National Guard and ended up as the assistant adjutant general in our State.

He is well qualified. He will improve the training of the National Guard which is what we need.

Thank you for giving me this opportunity to appear before your committee.

[The prepared statement of Representative G. V. Montgomery follows:]

PREPARED STATEMENT OF REPRESENTATIVE G. V. MONTGOMERY

Mr. Chairman, it is a great honor to be able to speak about my good friend, Maj. Gen. Emmett H. Walker, Jr. I fully concur with President Reagan's nomination of General Walker to be Chief of the National Guard Bureau.

He is a native Mississippian and has served this country with distinction in two wars and through a long and outstanding career in the National Guard.

He began his military career in the Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) at Mississippi State University in the early 1940's before going into World War II as a second lieutenant in 1944.

He received the Silver Star for valor and the Bronze Star for service in the European Theater in 1944 and 1945.

After the war, he received a degree in agricultural economics from Mississippi State University in 1947. He first joined the Mississippi National Guard in 1949.

He was mobilized to fight in the Korean war and served as an intelligence officer. After the war, he returned to Mississippi to continue his career of service in the National Guard.

General Walker attained the position of assistant adjutant general for Mississippi in 1972 and served in that capacity until 1976. In 1976, he came to Washington to become Deputy Director of the Army National Guard and in 1978, he was named Director of the Army National Guard.

I am most pleased at the nomination of Maj. Gen. Emmett H. Walker, Jr., to be Chief of the National Guard Bureau. He will be a great asset to this Nation and his leadership will help keep the National Guard in a constant state of readiness to respond to any national emergency.

Senator STENNIS. Thank you for being here.

Senator Warner, I am glad you could be here. General Walker has been nominated to be Chief of the National Guard Bureau. You are very familiar with and interested in it, I know.

Senator WARNER. I want to add my congratulations to the gentleman for his appointment and recognize our distinguished colleague from Mississippi and our distinguished colleague from the House of Representatives.

I have worked with Members of the House for many, many years. I am delighted, Congressman Montgomery, you took the time to come over and speak on behalf of this outstanding American.

I assume this nomination will proceed through the committee with the usual dispatch that you direct it to proceed.

Senator STENNIS. I believe the nomination will be favorably reported by the committee.

Senator WARNER. The Guard is a very important element in our State of Virginia. I would hope, gentlemen, I can accompany you someday on an inspection of our Guard in the State of Virginia.

Senator STENNIS. We thank you very much. I am glad you could attend, Congressman.

General Walker, your nomination reference and biographical sketch will be entered in the hearing record.

[The nomination reference and biographical sketch follow:]

NOMINATION REFERENCE

AS IN EXECUTIVE SESSION,
SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES,
August 10, 1982.

Ordered, That the following nomination be referred to the Committee on Armed Services:

The following named officer, under the provisions of Title 10, United States Code, Section 3015, to be Chief, National Guard Bureau:

To Be Chief, National Guard Bureau

Maj. Gen. Emmett H. Walker, 427–28–9186, Army National Guard of the United States.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH AND RÉSUMÉ OF SERVICE CAREER OF EMMETT HUDSON WALKER, JR.

Date and place of birth: 16 March 1924, Abbott, Miss.

Years of commissioned service: Over 37.

Present assignment: Director, United States Army National Guard, Washington, D.C. 20310, since August 1978.

Civilian occupation: Assistant Adjutant General, Mississippi.

Military schools attended: The Artillery and Missile School, Advanced Course; United States Army Command and General Staff College, Associate Course; United States Army War College.

Educational degrees: Mississippi State College, B.S. degree, agricultural economics.

Recent major duty assignments

December 1961 to February 1968—Commander, 4th Howitzer Battalion, 114th Artillery, Newton, Miss.

February 1968 to February 1972—Commander, 631st Artillery Group, Granda, Miss.

February 1972 to October 1976—Assistant Adjutant General of Mississippi.

October 1976 to November 1976—Special Assistant to Director, Army National Guard.

November 1976 to August 1978—Deputy Director, Army National Guard.

Commissioned active duty assignments

May 1944 to November 1944—Platoon Leader, 242d Infantry.

November 1944 to October 1945—Platoon Leader, 378th Infantry.

October 1945 to November 1945—Platoon Leader, 22d Infantry.

November 1945 to March 1946—Company Commander, Unit A, Sep Cen 1325.

January 1951 to August 1951—Battery Commander, 923d Field Artillery Battalion.

August 1951 to November 1951—Assistant Operations Officer, 923d Field Artillery Battalion.

November 1951 to September 1952—Intelligence Officer, 8420th AU, FECOM.

Promotions	Dates of appointment	
	Temporary	Permanent
2d lieutenant	May 23, 1944	May 23, 1944.
1st lieutenant	Apr. 30, 1945	Jan. 24, 1946.
Captain	Jan. 16, 1951	Jan. 3, 1951.
Major		Feb. 20, 1955.
Lieutenant colonel		Dec. 1, 1961.
Colonel		Feb. 19, 1968.
Brigadier general	Oct. 15, 1976	Nov. 17, 1976.
Major general	Aug. 22, 1978	

Promotions	Dates of appointment	
	Temporary	Permanent

U.S. decorations and badges: Silver Star; Bronze Star Medal; Army Commendation Medal; Combat Infantryman Badge.

Source of commission: OCS.

STATEMENT OF MAJ. GEN. EMMETT HUDSON WALKER, JR., U.S. ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

General WALKER. Mr. Chairman, I am honored to be here today. I must tell you that I am humbled by the mere thought of why I am here. I appreciate so much my fellow Mississippians, Senator Cochran and Congressman Montgomery, being here.

I must tell Senator Warner that I vote in Mississippi, but I have one of his constituents in my household.

As has been said, I have been in the military, either the National Guard or on active duty, for a good while. When I was a boy I dreamed of being a soldier. Never, though, did I dream that I would

reach the plateaus that have been bestowed upon me and never when I joined the National Guard in 1949 did I ever dream of becoming the Chief of the National Guard.

Through these years I have had an opportunity to serve with some truly great professional soldiers, enlisted and officer, professional active duty soldiers and professional civilian soldiers. They are the ones who have taught me, matured me, and followed me. They are also the ones who have supported me to where I am here today. I hope my being here today is an honor to them.

Sir, I realize and understand the major role that the National Guard, both Army and Air, carries in the defense of this Nation. I understand the responsibilities that have been given to the National Guard and what they mean to this country. We are proud to accept these responsibilities.

I think I understand the great responsibilities of the position of the Chief of the National Guard Bureau. I promise you, the members of this committee, and the half million National Guardsmen, that I will give this job and this responsibility my full concentration and do it to the best of my ability.

I have to tell a short story, Senator Stennis. In 1947 I saw in our home State of Mississippi a young judge elected to this Senate and his campaign pledge to the people was, "I will plow a straight furrow." You might remember that, sir, because you and I are citizens from that State.

So, I pledge to you, the members of this committee and the Congress, that if I am confirmed by the Senate I will plow the straight furrow with the Congress, with the Department of Defense, with the Army, the Air Force, and those 500,000 National Guard members.

Sir, it is my privilege to be here and I appreciate it very much.

Senator STENNIS. That is a very fine statement. I know the committee, the Senate, and the country will be proud of it.

I have some personal remarks that I would like to make.

First I want to say a word about the growing importance of the National Guard and Reserve forces. We just finished conference on a very fine, strong military authorization bill on Monday morning of this week—after as thorough a debate as I have ever been involved in. It has more money in it, too, that I have ever seen.

On its own, the Congress put into this authorization bill quite a sum of money, for 1 year anyway, asking for some extra material and supplies—supplies that get down to the so-called little fellows, the Guard and Reserve—not just a few planes, but extra radios and so forth. As someone said, give these Guard and Reserve units something that still has the factory paint on them, that looks good and is new.

I really believe, gentlemen, after looking the situation over a good number of years, with the spreading out of the public dollars, that we are going to have to go to the Guard and Reserves with more duties, more assignments, and more recognition. I find so much talent among them. They are part of the community, churches and schools, and involved in every activity. Many of them are experienced soldiers with battlefield experience. They are very capable. We underestimate the strength of these units. I believe this will be the trend for the next decade or even more. That is what I favor, and I have done what little I could in that direction.

I can think of one other thing about you personally, General Walker. I was amazed at the extent of the support you have through the country. Thirty-five States or more favor your appointment, and I am proud of it.

You have brought these qualities here, the same qualities you showed back in your first few years fresh out of college when you were putting your energies, efforts, dedication, ambition, and everything else into what job there was at hand that you were doing. That is when I first knew you.

Senator WARNER. Mr. Chairman, will you yield?

Senator STENNIS. Yes. I yield to you, Senator.

Senator WARNER. I want to associate myself with your remarks and emphasis on the Guard.

As you know, General Walker, the Chief of Staff of the Army recently stated that he would regretably and reluctantly forego the requirements for added people in the Regular Army in order to modernize. In my judgment that decision, while commendable, puts a greater burden on the Guard to fill in that hiatus during this period of modernization.

I certainly agree with Senator Stennis on the increasing importance of the Guard, particularly in light of this thrust toward modernization in the Army.

Senator Stennis, you are far too modest to mention the added money that the committee put in for the Guard. You said it was the initiative of the Congress. It happens to be your personal initiative that persuaded the conferees to accept that sum of money. I wish to recognize you personally for your leadership on that issue.

Senator STENNIS. Thank you, Senator Warner. There was a great deal of interest in it by the original members and that was a culmination of a lot of work.

One reason why I wanted us to have a hearing here on General Walker's and General Temple's nomination, is to emphasize the importance of the Guard and the trend toward giving them better equipment, more duties, and more recognition.

Senator Jepsen, you are welcome here. I know you are on our Manpower Subcommittee that put in so many hours on these matters.

This is General Walker with our colleague, Senator Cochran. General Walker has been nominated to be Chief of the National Guard Bureau and his proposed successor, General Temple, is present also.

Statements have been made by all except General Temple. Now we will be glad to hear from you if you have any questions.

Senator JEPSEN. I have no questions.

I want to give my support for the General and wish him well and to reinforce what you have said. I am sympathetic to actively supporting increased support of Guard activities. I think it is manifested by the efforts and leadership of our chairman and Senator Stennis.

Senator Cochran, I am pleased to welcome you to our committee meeting.

Senator COCHRAN. Thank you, sir.

Senator JEPSEN. You have my vote and my support and my best wishes, General.

General WALKER. Thank you, sir. I want to say this to you. We have appeared before you and your subcommittee. I want to tell you how

much we appreciate your support. It is great Americans like you that keep us going. I appreciate it.

Senator STENNIS. Thank you very much.

General Temple, suppose you move up to the table and join the group. Your name is here for nomination as successor to General Walker.

May I introduce also General Conoway. General Conoway, we are delighted to have you here.

General CONOWAY. Thank you, sir.

Senator STENNIS. General Conoway is Chief of the Air Force Guard. Where are you from, sir?

General CONOWAY. Kentucky.

Senator STENNIS. I see. Well, that is a good start in life.

General CONOWAY. Thank you, sir.

General WALKER. Senator, since I had an introduction and General Temple came without anyone to introduce him—in fact you caught him by surprise, I want to take the opportunity to introduce him if you will allow me.

Senator STENNIS. All right, we will hear from you.

General WALKER. This man has served with me as my deputy for the last 4 years. I just cannot say enough about Gen. Herbert Temple. He is one of the most highly qualified soldiers that I know, whether active or citizen soldier.

He has the background to qualify him for this job. He has the education, he has the experience in Government, he has everything we need in our National Guard Bureau to be the Director of the Army National Guard. I can't recommend him highly enough to you and the members of this committee.

I appreciate your giving me this opportunity to do that.

Senator STENNIS. Thank you, General Walker.

General Temple, you may make any response or any statement you wish.

STATEMENT OF BRIG. GEN. HERBERT R. TEMPLE, U.S. NATIONAL GUARD

General TEMPLE. Thank you very much.

I have no official statement to make for the record other than to express my personal view. I will give every assurance I can that I will continue the heritage of the Army National Guard and U.S. Army in the manner that I know you and the people of America would expect.

Thank you very much.

Senator STENNIS. What State are you from, General?

General TEMPLE. Sir, I am from the State of California.

Senator STENNIS. Well, California is doing a lot about running the Government now.

General TEMPLE. Thank you for recognizing that.

Senator STENNIS. We give you a special welcome. I believe in a man being proud of his own State.

General Cooper, you weren't going to be overlooked. Will you stand up for a minute, please.

General COOPER. I just came by to say hello.

Senator STENNIS. Let me say hello back to you..

General Cooper is in charge of Marine personnel. That is a highly important organization, too.

I think this committee unanimously believes in the growing importance of these units, what you do in your assignments, what you are going to be given in the future. It is not just to boost your spirits temporarily, but to warn you, too, that you are in this role.

What State are you from?

General COOPER. I am from Barksdale. Miss.

Senator STENNIS. That is a real start in life. I am glad to find you here in this responsible position. You have a special welcome, too.

General COOPER. Thank you, sir.

Senator STENNIS. When I used to be a trial judge we used to hear both sides. Does anyone want to speak for the other side?

No protest has been filed.

We have a great institution in our military. I want to say this reminds me of the time when Dwight Eisenhower was President and I was more or less a new Senator. Being on this committee, I got to go to the White House occasionally. I always gave him a lot of credit. His adult life had been down the line, military, military, military, but he showed a fine knowledge of the other branch of the Government—the civilian branch.

He had a tremendous knowledge worldwide that he gained through his military experiences. I think time has proven the wisdom and value of a number of his decisions that weren't apparent then. It is not everyone who can carry on both of those duties. But those of you who serve in this capacity do have that double responsibility. I think you have already demonstrated something in that field.

Now we have with us, Mr. Ed Philbin, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs. Mr. Philbin, we recognize you as we recognize the growing importance of your missions.

Is there anything you wish to say for the record? Where are you from?

Mr. PHILBIN. Sir, I can corroborate the fact that General Temple is from California.

Senator STENNIS. That is right, California is a growing State.

We are delighted to have you here.

The motion is that these gentlemen be confirmed for the respective positions they have been nominated for by the President and the committee be polled and if there is a majority to approve, that they be reported to the Senate.

I believe that completes the business here unless someone has a suggestion to make or question to ask.

This record itself will be a rather strong testimonial to these gentlemen who were nominated as well as the others who have been referred to and the comments and opinions of the Members of the Senate who have responsibilities in this field.

Is there anything else to be presented to the committee?

The Chair hears no suggestion.

Again, gentlemen, with the thanks of the committee for your record so far and for the high expectations you give us as to what will be your record in the future, we congratulate you again.

We will be doing business here. You know how to find us. You will be coming our way again and we look forward to seeing you.

General WALKER. Thank you, sir, we appreciate that very much.

Senator STENNIS. If there is nothing else to come before the committee, we will stand in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

I am informed that Senator Tower would have been here, but he is tied up on other matters. He sends his regrets and I appreciate his sentiments about this whole matter. He is very much interested in the Reserves and the service that you gentlemen perform.

Without objection, a statement by Senator Strom Thurmond in support of the nomination of General Walker to be Chief of the National Guard Bureau will be included in the record.

[The statement of Senator Strom Thurmond follows:]

PREPARED STATEMENT BY SENATOR STROM THURMOND

General Walker, it is a pleasure to have such a distinguished officer as yourself nominated to be the Chief of the National Guard Bureau. I am certain that Senator Stennis is pleased to have a fellow Mississippian nominated for this position.

Mr. Chairman, I am familiar with General Walker's service background and I feel that he is the best man for the job. He has served our country faithfully and with distinction. He has my full support.

Senator STENNIS. With the thanks of the committee, we are in recess.

[Whereupon, at 3:10 p.m., the committee recessed subject to call of of the Chair.]

[The nomination of Gen. Emmett H. Walker, Jr., was reported to the Senate by Senator Stennis on August 18, 1982, with the recommendation that the nomination be confirmed. The nomination was confirmed by the Senate on August 19, 1982.]

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